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Executive Director

November 19, 2003

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**JOHN ANSON FORD AMPHITHEATRE -
PROPOSED SCHEDULE
"FORD AMPHITHEATRE - 2004 SEASON"
(ALL DISTRICTS) (3 VOTES)**

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

1. Approve the proposed roster for the John Anson Ford Amphitheatre's 2004 season.
2. Authorize the Executive Director to make the necessary expenditures within the approved 2003-2004 budget to implement the program.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

To schedule the 2004 summer performing arts series in the historic Ford Amphitheatre. This is the annual implementation of the Arts Commission's Ford Amphitheatre programs.

The roster proposed for the 2004 Summer Partnership Program Season includes thirty three arts organizations producing forty one evening events. The proposed roster brings thirteen new arts organizations to the Ford season. It is anticipated that the Ford Theatre Foundation will provide resources for approximately twelve additional performances for young audiences, three additional chamber music concerts and a series featuring the work of Latino artists. Overall, the proposed schedule is consistent with previous Ford Amphitheatre seasons, reflecting the artistic merit, cultural diversity and geographic range of Los Angeles County.

The Arts Commission began programming "Summer Nights at the Ford" in 1993. To schedule the 2004 Ford summer season, the Arts Commission sent requests for proposals to more than 600 Los Angeles County arts organizations; 62 applications were received and reviewed by staff. On November 17, 2003, the Commission reviewed and unanimously approved the attached proposed roster. Selections were based on artistic merit, producing experience, fiscal stability, suitability of proposed project to the venue and diversity in programming.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The recommended action is consistent with the County Strategic Plan Goals of Service Excellence and Fiscal Responsibility as the proposed 2004 series will 1) provide the public with affordable access to quality arts programs and 2) further public private partnerships within the Los Angeles arts community.

FISCAL IMPACT/ FINANCING

Funds have been allocated for this purpose as part of the Arts Commission's Fiscal-Year 2003-2004 budget. Additional revenue comes from rental of the theatre, concessions, and donations from the Ford Theatre Foundation.

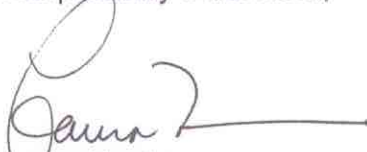
FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

Not applicable.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

Not applicable.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Laura Zucker", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Laura Zucker
Executive Director

LZ:DP

Attachments (1)

c: Director, Parks and Recreation

FORD AMPHITHEATRE
PROPOSED 2004 SUMMER PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM SEASON

*indicates organizations new to the Partnership Program.

Baseball Reliquary, Inc.*: *Legacies: Baseball From Flatbush to the City of Angels*

An evening of music, theatre, spoken word and performance art focusing on the transition of the Brooklyn Dodgers to Los Angeles and the impact that move had on its communities.

Bluegrass Association of Southern California: *Bluegrass at the Ford*

An evening of the best in contemporary and traditional American Bluegrass Music

Brazilian Nites *Brazilian Summer Festival 2004 & An Evening of Bossa Nova*

Annual festival featuring artists from Brazil and dancing on stage, as well arts and crafts booths. Also, a second concert paying tribute to Antonio Carlos "Tom" Jobim on the 10th anniversary of his death.

Celtic Arts Center*: *A Night of Celtic Music*

Concert program featuring two leading proponents of the traditional Celt sound. The show will open with a young L.A.-based traditional band and will also feature local Celtic dance troupes.

Clayton-Hamilton Jazz Orchestra*: *Just Jazz Concert Series*

One of today's top big bands in a series of monthly concerts featuring world-class guest artists and the premieres of new works written for the orchestra.

CSUN Association of Latino Alumni: *Fiesta Mexicana II - Sones, Bailes y Cantares*

Second annual variety show featuring the best of Mariachi music (Monumental de Mexico), Jarocho music (Hueyapan), Norteno music (Macuichocitl) and Ballet Folklorico (Ballet Ollin). Also featuring singers Ixya and Robert Alcaraz with Master of Ceremonies Jesus Javier from KRCA Channel 52.

Dance Camera West*: *Outside the Edges*

An extension of Dance Camera West's annual international dance film festival featuring dance film screenings.

Floricanto Dance Theatre: *Los Angeles and the Veracruz Connection*

Danza Floricanto and the band Quetzal join forces for the premiere of a piece exploring the crossover of the Mexican folk music style "son Jarocho" which is enjoying a resurgence on both sides of the border.

Fountain Theatre: *Sonidos Gitanos: Gypsy Flamenco*

Flamenco dance star Maria Bermudez once again brings her exciting troupe of Flamenco dancers, singers and musicians direct from Jerez de la Frontera in Southern Spain.

Hollywood Arts Council: *Jazz Pilgrimage 2004*

Annual tribute to a Los Angeles jazz legend that brings their many collaborators to perform as well.

IFP West: *Los Angeles Film Festival*

Three evenings of interactive, event-orientated screenings.

Instrumental Women Project: *Instrumental Women 2004*

Featuring top-flight jazz musicians who happen to be women, the concert showcases an all-female ensemble in an engaging repertoire of jazz spanning the genre.

International Academy of Middle Eastern Dance: *This is Belly Dance!*

An enchanted journey through the timeless world of belly dancing and the traditional dances of the Middle East that inspired this popular art form.

Jazz Bakery: *Salute to Piano Jazz*

Marian McPartland hosts this concert showcasing four artists who have been featured on her NPR "Piano Jazz" program.

Jazz Tap Ensemble: *Bringing It Home*

Jazz Tap Ensemble celebrates 25 years of making tap history with today's hottest tap dancers "Bringing It Home" to the Ford. Featuring new works, company favorites and a very special tribute to Gregory Hines.

Kim, Eung Hwa Korean Dance Academy*: *Ma-dang Nori*

Local dance company joins with Korea's renowned Samulnori Hanullim Art Troupe under the direction of Kim, Duk Soo in a program honoring the Korean tradition of outdoor cultural festivals.

Levantine Cultural Center*: *Levantine Festival: From Andalus to Jerusalem*

Program bridging Mediterranean and Middle Eastern cultures, including the multiple sacred, spiritual and mystical musical traditions of the Levant – from Al-Andalus (southern Spain) in the West to Jerusalem, Baghdad and Tehran in the East.

Los Angeles Jewish Symphony*: *Two Streams in the Desert*

A special concert celebrating Judeo-Espanol (Sephardic) and Klezmer/Yiddish Jewish Music.

Musica Angelica: *New World Baroque*

A concert of vocal and instrumental music from New Spain, featuring 17th and 18th century works from Mexico, Guatemala and the missions of California performed on historical instruments.

Outfest: *Outfest 2004 Under the Stars*

Five-night screening series that will be a highlighted component of Outfest 2004: The 22nd Los Angeles Gay and Lesbian Film Festival.

Pacifico Dance Co: *Mexico: Anoranza y Sentimiento*

An evening full of gorgeous costumes, energetic dancers, lively music and dynamic choreographies embodying the soul of Mexico. *Salon Mexico*, Pacifico's newest work, will be premiered.

Rangoli Foundation of Art and Culture*: *Planting a Sequoia*

A dance theater piece inspired by the powerful poem written by Dana Gioia (Chairman of the NEA) performed by the Rangoli Dance Company together with guest artists from India.

Regina Klenjoski Dance Company*: *Sultry Summer Nights with RKDC*

An eclectic array of contemporary dance works including two premieres and the elegant "Love Lies Waiting" featuring music performed by members of the Torrance Symphony.

Viver Brazil Dance Company: *Legends of Brazil*

An evening of dynamic Brazilian dance and music paying homage to the celebratory nature of the Brazilian people through the cultural contributions of the Indian, African and European traditions which define Brazil.

West Hollywood Orchestra: *More Movie Music Madness*

An encore performance featuring the full orchestra performing movie music with a guest artist.

Proposed events from the following organizations are also still under consideration for inclusion in the season:

Calabash Productions: *Sister Celebration 2004 – Women in Music, Dance & Spoken Word*

An uplifting evening of woman performers including Perla Batalla, Katia Moraes, Raya Yarborough and the group Adaawe.

Elvis Schoenberg's Orchestre Surreal: *Concerto for the Committed*

The next installment of the mad mad world of Elvis Schoenberg featuring the fabulous Miss Thing, Dangerous Dan, a cast of dancers and movements artists, and twenty five eclectic musicians that blend rock, jazz, world and classical music in a fun and humorous way.

INCA, The Peruvian Ensemble: *Fiesta Peru*

Program showcasing music and dance from Peru's native Inca, Hispanic and Amazon ancestry and also featuring special guest artist *Cambalache Negro* performing music and dance of Peru's black communities.

Nannette Brodie Dance Theatre/South Coast Dance Ensemble*: *Émigré*

An evening of contemporary dance and live music revolving around the theme of new immigrants entering our country and bringing with them their music, stories and diverse culture.

Opera Nova and The Verdi Chorus*:

Los Nuevos Maestros: L.A.'s Living Legends of Latin-American Music

A musical concert event featuring works by eminent Latin-American composers presently living and working in Los Angeles.

Rei Aoo's Dance Planet*: *The Birth*

and Taiko Center of Los Angeles*: *Japanese American Rhythms*

The Birth, fusing sounds of traditional Japanese instruments with movement of western dance forms, is a journey from the beginning of creation through the births of new creatures and their evolution. The show will also feature Satori Daiko, the 17-member performing ensemble of the Taiko Center of Los Angeles performing traditional and contemporary Taiko and Japanese folk dance pieces with special guest artists.

Free Family Programming

The Ford Theatre Foundation, with sponsorship by Robinsons-May and the Nissan Foundation, will again present the *Big!World!Fun!* family series on select Saturday mornings throughout the summer, with free admission for children and a nominal admission charge for adults. Artists for this series are currently under review.

Chamber Music

The Ford Theatre Foundation will also present its annual series of Chamber Music concerts. Artists for this series are currently under review.

Latino Arts Festival International

The Ford Theatre Foundation will present the third year of its festival featuring the work of both local and international Latino artists.

RENTAL PROGRAM

Proposed events from the following organizations are under consideration for inclusion in the summer season as rental events:

CSUN Association of Latino Alumni: *Latino Comedy Festival*

An evening of laughs featuring some of today's best Latino stand-up comedians such as Ernie G, Shiela Rivera, Johnny Snachez, Luke Torres, Frankie C., Gabriel Iglesias and others. With a live band and dancers providing entertainment between acts.

Hollywood Entertainment Group*:

The Belorussian National Dance Ensemble "Khoroshky"

With a company of 65 and live orchestra on stage, *Khoroshky* is today perhaps the top folk dance company in the world. Performing a program that includes Belorussian, Russian, Ukranian, Polish and other dances, music and songs of the 18th through 20th century.

Pinata Productions and Management*: *Ballet Folklorico de Colombia Sonia Asoro*

26 dancers and 10 musicians performing indigenous, African and Spanish dance forms which are part of Colombia's rich culture and heritage.

Viva Panama Organization: *Panama Danzas Hoy*

Panama Danzas Hoy, the official dance company of Panama City Hall and one of the most exotic and glamorous dance companies from Panama, in a program of traditional dances of Panama.

Wetu Communications: *African Village Music Festival*

Concert festival highlighting the world-beat rhythms of Africa, Brazil and Cuba. Proposed artists include *Africano*, *Daúde* and *Cubanismo*.

Commercial Rental Events

In addition to the above, the Ford has forged relationships with a number of major event producers that are anticipated to return to the Ford in summer 2004. These include *Nederlander*, *House of Blues* and *Clear Channel*. *Rodri Entertainment* has indicated that it will also return to the Ford with its *Standing Ovation Series* inaugurated in 2003.

Note: All proposed events are still subject to scheduling and artist availability.